(d) whether shortage of rail wagons is also causing hurdles in the inter-State movement of stocks for export purposes; and

(e) if so, how Government propose to deal with the massive wheat stocks lying in the open in Punjab and Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Strikes by Organised Sector in the Country

*191. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the 23rd June, 1995, captioned "season of strikes"; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to meet the unreasonable strikes by organised labour in the country in order to save the process of liberalisation launched by Government?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 contains provisions for conciliation, arbitration and adjudication of industrial disputes and the industrial relations machinery intervenes promptly with a view to bringing about just and amicable settlements. The Act prohibits strikes under certain circumstances by both public utility services and others. Where a strike is declared illegal the Government takes necessary steps to prosecute the offenders. Government also takes appropriate action to ensure that essential services are not affected on account of illegal strikes.

NLC dues outstanding against TNEB

*192. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many million units were sold by Neyvelli Lignite Corporation to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the payments made by TNEB against the actual bill during the above period;

(c) the total outstanding amount due from TNEB till date; and

(d) the action taken by Neyvelli Lignite Corporation to recover the dues from TNEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Million Units sold by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are indicated below:

Year	Million Units
1992-93	3418.16
1993-94	3526.40
1994-95	4324.65

(b) Payments by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board against the actual bills during the above period are as under:—

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1992-93	219.45
1993-94	281.55
1994-95	438.17

(c) Total outstanding amount due from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to Neyveli

Lignite Corporation Ltd. till date is indicated below:—

(Dues as on 31.7.95 for supplies upto 6/95)

		(Rs. in crores)
(a)	Monthly bills	Nil
(b)	Supplementary bills for rate difference	38.55
(c)	Others	2.26
(d)	Transmission charges	4.41
	Total:	45.22

There is no outstanding against TNEB as regards regular monthly bills.

(d) Tamil Nadu Electricity Board was regularly reminded by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. on various occasions to settle their dues.

Visit of Commerce Minister to USA

*193. DR. GOPALRO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to boost the Indo-American commercial and trade ties, some high power delegation led by Commerce Minster visited USA in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the objectives;

(c) whether Government have made some achievements with this visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether a large amount has been spent on this visit; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f) During his visit to U.S.A. in June, 1995 Commerce Minister addressed the Inaugural Board Meeting of the Indo-U.S. Commercial Alliance, which is a body comprising of private sector representatives from both sides, and also addressed a Conference on "Information Technology: opportunities in India". His other important engagements, *inter-alia* included, bilateral meetings with the U.S. Commerce Secretary, U.S. Trade Representative; meeting with silicon valley Indian Professionals Association, Washington, International Trade Association and other bodies engaged in promoting Indo-U.S. Commercial relations. He also called on some Senators and Congressmen. During the visit he was accompanied by an officer in the Commerce Ministry and was joined in U.S.A. by our ambassdor and other senior officers of the Indian Embassy. Private Sector representatives who had participated in the inaugural meeting of the Board of Indo-U.S. Commercial Alliance and Conference on Information Technology went at their own cost and no financial assistance was provided by Government for their visit. The visit helped in forging stronger Indo-U.S. Commercial and trade ties and also provided an opportunity for discussing various issues of mutual bilateral concern.

Shifting of original coal linkages

*194. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that original coal linkages had to be shifted to alternate sources due to non-development of linked mines;

(b) if so, what are the details of the cases and their locations in which this was done;

(c) what was done in the matter of alternate fuel supply; and

(d) how this has affected the commissioning of power projects in the private sector?